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## MD 331 Dover Bridge Replacement

**WHERE:** Talbot and Caroline counties

**WHAT:** Constructing a new Dover Bridge carrying MD 331 over the Choptank River. This is a top transportation project that has been sought by Talbot and Caroline counties for many years.

**WHY:** The existing MD 331(Dover Road) Bridge was built in 1932 and is a three span, steel Warren truss bridge with a swing-span and concrete deck that carries two 12-foot lanes. When the swing-span bridge opens to river traffic, vehicle traffic is halted on both sides. The interruption of vehicular traffic is a concern among local residents, especially since it prevents access for emergency vehicles that serve one hospital for both counties. Due to its age, the opening mechanisms of the bridge have been prone to breakdown. Additionally, the bridge is too narrow for modern standards (functionally obsolete) and is nearing the end of its “service life.”

The new bridge will be a high-level, fixed-span (no movable spans) structure just south of the existing bridge. The new bridge will be 2,020 feet long with two 12-foot lanes, 8-foot shoulders, and 50-foot clearance above the Choptank River for marine traffic. The existing will remain at its current location in an open position to allow marine traffic to pass and people to fish from either side of the structure.

**WHEN:** Construction will begin late summer 2014 and be complete winter/spring 2017, weather permitting.

**COST:** **Construction:** **\$55.3 million**  
**Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act**

**Total:** **\$60.5 million**  
**(Federal: \$12.5 million, State: \$48 million)**

### LOCATION MAP:

